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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

TC 3100 MAIL ROOM

APR 12 2002

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R. Lloyd

IN RE APPLICATION OF: :
Ryuichi ISHIKAWA, et al. : GROUP ART UNIT: 3729
SERIAL NO: 09/160,581 :
CPA FILED: SEPTEMBER 28, 2001 : EXAMINER: CHANG, R
FOR: A METHOD FOR CUTTING
AN OPTICAL FIBER

AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated October 10, 2001, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

A clean copy of the claims incorporating any amendment is shown below.

Please amend Claims 5-10 as follows:

5. (Twice Amended) A method for cutting an optical fiber, for cutting the optical fiber by moving a cutting blade, comprising a step of moving the cutting blade having a blade thickness α (mm) at a speed β (mm/minute) during the cutting,

wherein $\beta \leq -253\alpha + 65$ (mm/minute).

6. (Twice Amended) The method for cutting an optical fiber according to Claim 5, further comprising a step of heating said cutting blade.

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